

The Voice

Algona High School

Edited by: Mackenzie Siefken

March 25, 2011

SUPERSTARS!!

Rachel Weiland

On Thursday, March 17th, students from Algona High School participated in Superstars. The theme for this year was Luck O' the Irish. There were many activities the students were able to be a part of.

Some of the activities were: chess, checkers, cribbage, topple, cup stacking, speed, bingo, 21, arm wrestling, Texas hold 'em, team ski walk, putting, steal the bacon, pickleball, bag game, human ladder, weird shuttle relay, badminton, chipping, team dancing, talent show, batty relay, tire bridge, boffo relay, musical chairs, limbo, lightning, and tug of war. To participate in the games, you had to sign up during homeroom the week before.

Some highlights

of the night include Matt Olsen and Kenzie Siefken dominated everyone who challenged them in arm wrestling. Allie Simpson and Joey Schattschneider won team dancing. Tina Pearson and AnnaLise Manske won musical chairs. The juniors won steal the bacon and human ladder. The senior girls won dodgeball. Limbo was a three way tie between Joel Lanus, Ali Bryant, and Taylor Schealler.

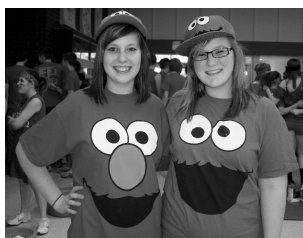
Cane Arowood said, "It was our time to shine." Carly Sansone said, "It was pretty much a blow out." The seniors won, followed by the juniors. The sophomores came in third with 223 points. Last, the freshmen came in fourth with 206 points.

It was a great night and enjoyable for all who attended.

Below: Junior boys are ready to go in Steal the Bacon.



Above: Senior boys help Johnny Aboud across the Human Ladder.



Right: Brittany Meyer & Maddi Jennings show their cute outfits!



SENIORS



JUNIORS



SOPHOMORES



FRESHMEN

More pictures can be found at mspear.dotphoto.com

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Honorable ceremonies

Tyler Mawdsley

The AHS Honors Banquet & National Honor Society Induction Ceremony took place Monday, March 21, 2011, at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Cecil gave the welcome and presented certificates and awards. The flute quartet of Alexis Beenken, Krystyna Diggins, Rebecca Illg, and Briana Meyerink provided entertainment to start the night.

First was the honors portion of the night. Students who have achieved academic success at AHS were recognized. Those who received honors were any freshmen with all A's, the top 5% of sophomores, the top 10% of juniors, and the top 15% of seniors.

After the introductions of current members, candidates, and honorary member Mrs. Bormann, the student speakers took the stand. Katie Connick spoke about

leadership, Ryan McMahon spoke about character, Joey Schattschneider talked about scholarship, and Brittany Vaske spoke about service.

Afterwards, the 2010/2011 inductees to the National Honor Society were introduced. Sarah Bierle, Haley Dittrich, Samuel Lipps, PJ McMahon, Briana Meyerink, Christian Parker, Derek Person, Emily Prilipp, Melinda Schultze, Jade Simpson, Shelby Wagner, and Jeni Zeller received this honor. Congratulations to the new NHS students!

Anyone who wishes to join the NHS in the future, like the 2010/2011 class, must meet this criteria: a GPA of 3.4+, minimum of 35 Silver Cord hours, submit a typed application packet, and submit 2 letters of reference about student leadership, character, and service. The references cannot come from faculty members or family.

Apply for free cash!

Carly Sansone

Scholarships are really important to the students who are attending college. Scholarships help people out financially and could be a stress reliever. Seniors from Algona High School, who are applying for scholarships, need to get this done. Most of the scholarships left to apply for are due on April 1st, and no later. Rachel Weiland says, "I need to get this done!"

Most scholarship selection committees look to reward well-rounded, active, and accomplished students. They focus on student's academic involvement, leadership skills, work experience, and community service.

Things that students need when applying for local scholarships are two letters of recommendation, a copy of the student's FAFSA, a resume or biography, the application, and a folder from the office. Some other scholarships require a 500-word essay on why the student deserves the

scholarship and a copy of the student's parents' tax return.

When choosing people to write a recommendation for you, make sure you give them plenty of time to fill it out. Teachers, coaches, co-workers, and church members are good people to choose to write a recommendation for you. Make sure you send a thank you card back to them for your appreciation of their time and effort.

Locally 500,000 dollars is given away yearly from scholarships alone. Seniors should apply for all they can before it's too late. 350 applications are submitted each year and around 300 awards are given out, so it wouldn't hurt to try and apply.



Above: AHS National Honor Society members.



Right: Sarah Bierle receives her award for academic success from Mrs. Fonley during the Honors Banquet.

Sports

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Chip away

Clarissa Laubenthal

Spring is here and golf is underway. Boys' golf started on Monday, March 21st, and their first meet will be on April 12th at Clarion-Goldfield. Girls' golf started on Monday, March 14th. Their first meet will be April 12th at home vs. Clarion-Goldfield.

This year the Varsity Girls' Golf team will have 10 golf meets. The Varsity Boys' Golf team will have 11 meets. Chris Arend said, "I can't wait for this season to start. It will be a lot of fun this year." Good luck this year to both teams.



Above: The golf athletes practice in the middle school gym with the new golf nets.

Smokin' fast!

Cane Arrowood

This week marks the first time the Algona boys took the track and competed in the Iowa State indoor track meet. This meet opened up the season for the track team. They went to Iowa State with high hopes.

The girls went to Ames on March 14th and set the bar high. Eight girls from AHS attended. The girls finished fifteenth in the 4x8. Page Yi said, "Iowa State was a great start to our season!" Brandee Hockett ran well in her sprint events.

The boys made the trip on March 15. The boys took nineteen athletes to Ames. The boys opened up with the 4x8 and ran a time of 8:31.68, placing them ninth overall. Ryan McMahon took twelfth in the two mile in a time of

9:52.51. With high hopes in the 1600m Medley, the boys came in eighth place. Also the 4x4 and 4x1 placed in the top twenty. John Etler says, "Michael ran under 2:10 in an 800!" Overall the boys ran one of the best indoor meets ever.

The boys look to maintain their top five status in the state. The boys and girls will start the outdoor season on March 31, with the Early Bird Relay. Good luck to the Algona track teams this year!



Above: The AHS Drill Team stops for a picture after their spring show.

Below: Mike Gade performs in the drill team co-ed dance during the Spring Clinic.



We got the beat!

Katie Green

The AHS dance team's annual Spring Clinic was held on Friday, March 11th. The dancers showcased all of their routines from the season. The dances included the State jazz and kick, bag, Christmas, Valentine's, co-ed, and senior farewell.

The girls taught younger children dances early in the day. Registration began at 9 and the children were taught their dances until noon. The children then got to show off their dances at the show. The show started at 6 and ended

around 8.

Each dancer taught a different grade a dance. The grades broke up into groups; kindergarten and first grade, second and third grade, fourth and fifth grade, middle school, and boys.

Senior AnnaLise Manske said, "It was a bittersweet feeling being done with the season. I'm really going to miss my dance girls." West Bend also attended the show. They performed their State routines and some girls did solos.

It ends today!!

John Krause

The third quarter is over! The quarter ends today, March 25, 2011. The end of the quarter is a chance to get out of study hall and back into commons or get your open campus back. You can also lose that stuff, so make sure to get your grades up and if you have any late work, get it done because those grades will turn to zeros.

If you are a senior, to lose your open campus you will have to have three Ds or an F. If you are a freshman

I object!

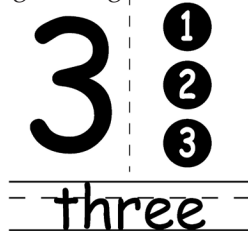
Katie Green

On Monday, March 14th, the Mock Trial team participated in the Regional Competition at NIACC. Mock Trial is an activity where students are either lawyers or witnesses in a fake trial. Students who participated were senior Maddie Gisch, juniors Nick Bitz, Alex Harms, Breanna Johnson, Briana Meyerink, Mike VanDenHemel, and freshmen Elijah Banwart, Joanna Wilson, and Braden Menke.

Their case was about a high school girl named Winnie Smith. Her school decided to get laptops for each of their students. The laptops are available checkout beyond school hours. Each laptop has a webcam built into it that takes still frame

through junior, it only takes one D (or F) to get in study hall.

There were many fun activities that took place in the third quarter. The basketball and wrestling seasons came to an end. We also had Superstars in the third quarter. John Etler says, "There is only one quarter left before summer, so it's time to buckle down and get straight A's"



pictures every 15 minutes to every 24 hours. Winnie let a friend borrow her laptop for homework. Her friend felt like she was being watched because the webcam light was always flashing. She decided to sue the school.

Nick Bitz said, "My freshman year there was a college student who poisoned his mother. Sophomore year was a really annoying parrot. This year was a peepshow. Let's see what senior year brings!"



Solo/ensemble performances

Connor Barber

The band and choir State Solo/Ensemble contest is being held on Saturday, March 26th, at Algona High School. It starts at 8:00 a.m. and goes till about 6:00 p.m. There will be about 250 students performing from four different schools. They will be judged on a scale of 1-5, 1 being the best rating. There will be solos, duets, trios, quartets, and larger groups. Also, flute choir, brass choir, and percussion ensemble will compete. Sophomore, Hunter Buscherfeld said,

"Preparation for the solo/ensemble contest has been somewhat strenuous, let's cross fingers for a Division I!"

The performances are open to the public and there is no charge to attend. There will also be a concession stand open to purchase food. The band and choir students have been preparing their pieces for months and would love to have you come and support them!

Individuals rock State Speech!!

Kari Simpson

The Algona High School Speech students participated at the State Individual Speech Contest on Saturday, March 12th, at Algona High School. The schools from the Northwest District made their way here with over 40 schools participating. It was a large event for the community and a day full of competition.

From Algona High, there were nine Division I ratings given out. These were awarded to Leah Hamilton, Breanna Johnson, Tommy Christian, Jeff Schipull, Bethany Laddusaw, Hunter Buscherfeld, Cameron Lahndorf, Abbie Atkinson, and Shelbi Schadendorf. From these, Tommy Christian and Hunter Buscherfeld were nominated for All-

State. Tommy was selected for his acting and Hunter for movie theatre. They will compete at ISU on Monday, March 27th.

Student Chris Arend said, "Congrats to Tommy and Hunter on a job well done. It was a lot of fun this year in Speech. I really enjoyed it." Congratulations speech participants!



Presidential honors

Chris Arend

In the U.S. military, there are many different honors you can receive. One of the most prestigious awards you can receive is to meet the President of the United States.

Senior at AHS, Private First-Class Brandon Gifford has received honors for being recognized by First Sergeant Skirvin and will get that opportunity. To win this, he and another soldier of the Algona branch of the National Guard were chosen to go head-to-head in physical training combat. Gifford won the battle and then wrote a 1-page minimum report on why he deserved to participate. After the screening process, he was chosen as one of the 30 Iowa soldiers to receive this honor.

On April 30th through May 4th, Brandon will represent the Algona RSP district from Iowa and will be flown to Washington D.C. to meet President Barack Obama. Afterwards he and other recipients of this honor will get to have separate dinners with the Senators and congressmen. Also as a bonus, he will get a Presidential tour of Washington D.C., including the White House, Washington and Lincoln Memorials, and Arlington Cemetery.

"It's a once in a lifetime chance," stated Gifford, "meeting the Senators, congressmen, and other political figures." Congratulate Private First-Class Brandon Gifford for receiving this honor.



Above: Mike Gade waits while his blood is drawn.

Blood drive

Janelle Wittenberg

The blood drive this year took place on March 22, 2011, in the south end of the gym. If you were not eighteen, you had to bring a parent consent form that was signed and also an ID. The blood drive was sponsored by the Algona High School Student Senate and the National Honor Society.

Qualifications for giving blood include must weigh at least 120 pounds.

If they didn't think you weighed enough, they weighed you right there. You also had to fill out a form that asked you questions about your lifestyle.

"It took me forever, but it got me out of my classes. It was a fantastic experience," stated Katie Green.

Winter recognition

John Krause

There were two sports banquets this past week. The first one was for girls' and boys' basketball and cheerleading. There were many awards given to the basketball players.

For boys' basketball, the Howie Stevenson award was given to Ryan McMahon. The other major award was the Colar Award, which was given to Michael McMahon. There were six seniors who were recognized. For girls, the Colar Award was given to Laura TerHark. The

cheerleaders will be losing Rachel Hoskins and Taylor Schealler.

The other winter sports banquet was the wrestling banquet. They said their last goodbye to the only senior, Alex Wiseman. They talked about the season and are hoping improve next year with only losing one senior. Alex Wiseman said, "Both the banquets had amazing food."

